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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,849,777

Issued: February 1, 2005

Application No. 09/657,631

Filed: September 6, 2000

Patentee: Marilyn E. Etzler, et al.

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NOTICE

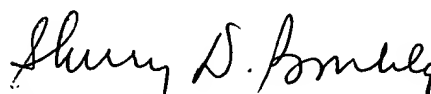
This is a notice regarding your request for acceptance of a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28. On September 1, 1998, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that 37 CFR 1.28(c) is the sole provision governing the time for correction of the erroneous payment of the issue fee as a small entity. See DH Technology v. Synergystex International, Inc. 154 F.3d 1333, 47 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 1, 1998).

The Office no longer investigates or rejects original or reissue applications under 37 CFR 1.56. **1098 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 502 (January 3, 1989).** Therefore, nothing in this Notice is intended to imply that an investigation was done.

Your fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28 is hereby **ACCEPTED**.

This application no longer qualifies for small entity status. Accordingly, all future fees must be paid at the large entity rate.

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the Office of Petitions Staff at (571) 272-3282.

  
Sherry D. Brinkley  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions